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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 10 January 1956

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report -- December 1955

ADMINISTRATION

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- 25X1A 1. The total personnel on duty as of 31 December was [REDACTED]
2. The position of Propaganda Analysis Officer was transferred [REDACTED] thus reducing the FDD T/O and ceiling by one to [REDACTED] 25X1A
3. A meeting of FDD members of military reserve organizations was held on 6 December and alternatives for status decisions were explained by members of the Military Mobilization Staff/OP.
4. Conferences have been held with the classification officers of the Personnel Evaluation Division/OP to the end that the Inspector General's recommendations relative to the Publications Section be put into effect. Job descriptions and a reorganization plan will be drawn up for formal consideration.
- 25X1A 5. [REDACTED] a Career Staff member of FDD, received an incentive award of \$15 for his suggestion proposing a system of identifying references listed in O&A reports.
6. Overtime quotas for the four pay periods beginning 12 December were again drastically cut to meet budget limitations.
- 25X1A 7. [REDACTED] of OO/C visited the Division on 22 December for a general tour and briefing.
- 25X1A 8. Seven FDD analysts began full-time FDD training in Russian under [REDACTED] on 5 December.
- 25X1A 9. [REDACTED] completed a special assignment with OTR involving about 10 days' participation in a training film. 25X1A

OPERATIONS

1. The 60th and 61st meetings of the Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications were held on 2 and 16 December, respectively, and were concerned with a review of the scientific and technical exploitation program. The next meeting is scheduled for 6 January 1956.

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2. Arrangements have been completed with Printing Service Division/OL for reproduction of Soviet biographic index information cards on duplimat, replacing the ditto method. This was to expedite on a 24-hour basis the dissemination of this information which had previously built up reproduction backlogs of more than a month.

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3. Upon information from CIA Library that the English translation of the USSR Academy of Sciences textbook "Political Economy" would not be available [REDACTED] for an indefinite period, the FDD translation has been ordered produced and should be ready for dissemination in February 1956.

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4. [REDACTED] of NSA discussed with Chief, FDD, and Chief, Far East, problems of inadequacy of Chinese reference dictionaries and current developments in the field.

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5. [REDACTED] a representative of the [REDACTED] contractors for the Air Force, discussed with Chief, FDD, methodology in handling information from foreign-language sources with a view toward machine development.

6. Reference to the CTS Index prevented 23 cases of duplication totaling 2010 pages.

7. USIA called to the Division's attention an FDD report prepared from a foreign-language document actually produced by USIA in the field. USIA will henceforth furnish FDD lists of their field-produced foreign-language products.

8. The first issue of a new scheduled report was published during the month, "Soviet Activities in the Arctic and Antarctic" (OO-W) -- Bi-monthly. The monthly report, "Survey of Scientific and Technical Dissertations Defended at USSR Higher Technical Institutes," formerly part of the scheduled program, is now being produced via contract facilities.

9. Chief, Scientific and Technical Branch, participated in an intra-agency conference with representatives of OCR, OSI, Office of the DD/I, and Management Staff to discuss files on and functions of Soviet Bloc scientific institutions. On the basis of the conference, Management Staff will draw up recommendations on what types of files will be maintained and by whom.

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11. Commendations:

From the MIS Coordinator, State Department, for the support

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the preparation of the
NIS section on Yugoslavia.

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From Chief, Electronics Division, OSI, for timely and
accurate information on Soviet television prepared by

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Also from Chief, Electronics Division, OSI, an appreciation
for the cooperation and assistance provided by the Division over the
past year.

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From Chief, Satellite Section, Soviet Branch, Biographic
Register, OCR, for the fine support furnished by the Eastern Europe
Branch, particularly by

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From the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, for
the prompt and efficient fulfillment by the Division of various G-2
requirements.

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From the Director of Training, for the rapid reverse trans-
lation (English to Spanish) on urgently needed training material per-

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From Chief, HQM/OIS, for the rapid completion of a request
involving scanning of available foreign-language press for articles
on brainwashing.

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12. Liaison Activities (other than CIA)

Department of State

With Division of Research for Near East, South Asia, and
Africa, Mr. Robert Baum, to discuss program guidance matters affecting
FOD's information report on Africa.

With Division of Research for Western Europe, Mr. Rudolf
Altroggen and Mr. Arnold Price, to discuss relative priority of State
requirements on East German political and sociological information.

With Division of Research for USSR and Eastern Europe,
Mr. George Serbinoff and Mr. Richard Tims, to discuss priorities in
political and sociological coverage of Bulgarian and Polish sources.

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For NE- [REDACTED] translated special Persian-language material.

25X1A For NE- [REDACTED] spent approximately five days on a special project on Afghanistan.

25X1A For TSS, [REDACTED] rendered special linguistic assistance.

OO/C -- Reverse translation of a questionnaire on anti-tank shells from English to Russian.

ORR -- For Ferrous Metals Branch, made an on-the-spot survey of a 600-page Russian book on ferrous metallurgy.

14. Significant reports:

FDD Summary No. 742 -- Weekly Economic Information Report on Eastern Europe (Substantiation of opinion that USSR has retained control of Bulgarian uranium mining, p. 86. Item is referenced in OGI Intelligence Digest of 8 December).

FDD Summary No. 754 -- Weekly Information Report on China (presents First Five-Year Plan for Shansi Province, pp. 65ff). 25X1A

FDD Summary No. 756 -- Garrisoned People's Police of the German Democratic Republic [REDACTED]

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Enclosures: 2

J. J. BAGNALL

1. Statistical Report on FDD Operations
2. Details on Personnel Actions

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